

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I am reminded of the creation of the Homeland Security Committee and the Department of Homeland Security. It was in the aftermath of the heinous acts of 9/11, of which I was a Member of the United States Congress, and the description and actions are seared in my memory.

We organized the Homeland Security Department to be the front lines of security, to recognize, and to determine what would be the best way to function.

I will be introducing legislation about the security of the Homeland Security Department. The precipitous firings and resignations are putting this Nation in jeopardy and putting the men and women on the front lines for the work that they are doing, it is undermining that very important work.

So today I rise as a cofounder and co-chair of the Afghanistan Caucus, to ask my colleagues to salute those who just lost their lives in battle in Afghanistan, soldiers from across the Nation. Their families are mourning, and we owe them a recognition that they wear the uniform and they are able or willing to sacrifice for us.

I would ask my colleagues to take a moment of silence for those who died in the recent IED incident in Afghanistan. I ask now for a moment of silence for those soldiers who have fallen in battle.

HONORING THE PASSING OF THE LAST WORLD WAR II DOOLITTLE RAIDER

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, when I was reading the Cincinnati Enquirer online this morning, an article headline grabbed my attention: "Last WW II Doolittle Raider dies." Lieutenant Colonel Dick Cole was 103 when he passed away Tuesday in Texas.

There were 80 Raiders, and the fifth last to survive was Tom Griffin, from my Cincinnati, Ohio, district, who was 96 when he died a couple of years ago. I had the honor of getting to know Tom well over the years. He was a wonderful guy, and, yes, he was a hero.

That is a term that gets used quite frequently nowadays; but Tom Griffin, and Dick Cole, and the other 78 brave Americans who took off that night from the USS *Hornet* truly were heroes.

Only months after the devastating attack on Pearl Harbor, their daring feat gave America a much-needed shot in the arm that was a first and major step in winning that war.

Now these 80 courageous, gallant, patriotic Doolittle Raiders are all gone, but they will never be forgotten.

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NATIONAL DAY OF SILENCE

(Mr. PANETTA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the National Day of Silence that is going to happen this Friday, April 12. That is a day when people around the country and in my community on the central coast of California take a vow of silence to raise awareness about the issues faced by lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer students.

One of those students will be Oliver Cantrell, who lives in Santa Cruz and is transgender and bisexual. As president of the queer-straight alliance at Harbor High, Oliver works to build bridges between students and school staff through education and outreach.

When Oliver transferred to Harbor High, he was met with support. However, we know there are students at other schools who may not be so lucky. That is exactly why Oliver is taking a vow of silence to highlight the struggle for acceptance by LGBTQ youth.

Many students will take that vow of silence this Friday. That is why we as leaders should continue to speak up and step up every day to ensure that all Americans are respected and appreciated for who they are.

HONORING CARL LAMM

(Mr. ROUZER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROUZER. Mr. Speaker, after 72 years on the air, Carl Lamm, whom many know as the voice of Johnston County, retired as America's longest continuous radio broadcaster on Friday, March 29.

Mr. Carl, as many of us affectionately call him, has been co-owner and operator of WTSB-AM radio in Smithfield, North Carolina, since 1958. His daily programming was revered by millions throughout the State, Nation, and world who listened to him on the radio and online throughout the course of his career.

In more than seven decades on air, he brought some of the greatest musicians, top athletes, professionals of all stripes, and national political figures and commentators into the homes and businesses of his listeners to discuss current events and politics, to preach the Word of God, and much more.

He has witnessed the evolution of radio from the glory days of the Grand Ole Opry to the digital age of the 21st century.

Mr. Carl's many notable recognitions include North Carolina's highest civilian honor, The Order of the Long Leaf Pine, as well as membership in the North Carolina Broadcasters Hall of Fame. However, what I admire most is his loyal faith in our creator.

Suffice it to say, we will all miss listening to Mr. Carl on the air at WTSB radio. It is not often that you get to know a legend in their own time. Mr. Carl is just that and a very dear friend to many as well.

As he enters this new chapter of life known as retirement, may God always continue to bless his path.

HONORING MAYOR RAYMOND BAGSHAW

(Mrs. DEMINGS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. DEMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mayor Raymond Bagshaw, who passed away March 10.

Mayor Bagshaw's service to our community and to helping small businesses was unwavering. As the mayor of the city of Edgewood, he brought what was called boundless ingenuity to his city where he started numerous projects, including transforming a vacant, desolate lot into a beautiful park. Today, the park, which bears his name, hosts numerous events and family-filled activities.

A true public servant, Mayor Bagshaw was never afraid to roll up his sleeves and work in the trenches. During natural disasters, it was natural for him to pitch in to clean up debris or direct traffic around downed power lines.

Mr. Speaker, I join Mayor Bagshaw's family, the city council, and citizens of Edgewood in celebrating his life and legacy and thanking him for a job well done.

CONGRESS' SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL

(Mr. SPANO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SPANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the nation of Israel for holding its national elections yesterday.

As the sole democracy in the Middle East, it not only sets an example to its neighbors, but it is a key ally in spreading peace, democracy, and prosperity throughout the world.

I also want to recognize the thousands of people who traveled to Washington recently for this year's AIPAC conference.

It has been an honor to work with so many of my colleagues on legislation that will not only help secure Israel militarily but also allow it to thrive economically. Countries in the region should take note of what is possible when they work in good faith and, most importantly, seek peace.

As NATO's Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg said in this Chamber last week, it is good to have friends. I am honored to count Israel as one of our closest and greatest friends.

I look forward to working with a united Congress to support the Jewish state and to spread democracy wherever tyranny exists.

HONORING NIPSEY HUSSLE

(Ms. BASS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)